

Message Text

SECRET

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 /026 W
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O 271435Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9008

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AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T OSLO 5208

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PORG UN CB NO

SUBJ: KHMER AT 29TH UNGA

REF: (A) STATE 259686 (B) OSLO 5140 (C) STATE 255530

1. WE PRESSED FOREIGN MINISTRY (DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR POLITICAL AFFAIRS VIBE) ON KHMER ISSUE TO ASCERTAIN RESULTS OF FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND'S REVIEW OF GON POLICY EMPHASIZING IMPORTANCE US ATTACHES TO ISSUE, PERSONAL INTEREST OF SECRETARY, CRUCIAL NATURE OF NORWEGIAN SUPPORT IN CLOSE VOTE AND VOTING TRENT AMONG NATO AND OTHER NATIONS (REF A).

2. VIBE CALLED IN DCM NOVEMBER 27 TO RECEIVE TEXT OF FRYDENLUND'S REPLY. FRYDENLUND WAS PARTICULARLY UNHAPPY, VIBE SAID, BECAUSE HE COULD NOT SUPPORT RESOLUTION URGING NEGOTIATIONS. FOR MIN HAS CONSULTED NOVEMBER 27 WITH STORTING FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND REACHED CONCLUSION THAT THE TWO OPPOSING RESOLUTIONS WOULD BE SEEN AS CONTRIBUTIONS BY THE WARRING PARTIES, AND A POSITIVE VOTE WOULD BE INTERPRETED AS SHIFT FROM NORWAY'S TRADITIONAL ABSENTION ISSUES INVOLVING INDO CHINA. VIBE STRESSED THAT POLICY OF ABSTENTION HAS ALLOWED NORWAY HITHERTO TO RESIST EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE AND ACTIVE
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LOBBYING EFFORTS BY HEAD OF PRG INFORMATION OFFICE IN OSLO.

DCM EXPRESSED GREAT DISAPPOINTMENT OVER GON'S DECISION AND STRESSED THE SERIOUSNESS WITH WHICH USG WOULD VIEW ANY SHIFT IN NORWEGIAN POSITION ON PRG, IN LIGHT OF POLICY AND POSITION OUTLINED BY FRYDENLUND IN CONNECTION WITH KHMER VOTE.

3. TEXT OF FRYDENLUND LETTER FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT

DEAR MR. SECRETARY:

BY COMMUNICATION OF 21 NOVEMBER 1974 FROM YOUR AMBASSADOR, I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR MESSAGE DATED 20 NOVEMBER 1974 CONCERNING THE CAMBODIAN QUESTION IN THE UNITED NATIONS.

I UNDERSTAND YOUR CONCERN IN THIS MATTER AND HAVE GIVEN MY MOST SERIOUS CONSIDERATION TO YOUR LETTER.

I WOULD LIKE TO EXPLAIN OUR POSITION:

NORWAY HAS FOR SEVERAL YEARS NOW BEEN PURSUING A POLICY OF NEUTRALITY TOWARDS THE VARIOUS PARTIES STRUGGLING FOR POWER IN CAMBODIA, A COUNTRY WITH WHICH NORWAY HAS NEVER HAD DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS.

WHEN THE OVERALL SITUATION IN THE AREA HAS BEEN STABILIZED, MY GOVERNMENT INTENDS TO REEXAMINE ITS RELATIONS WITH ALL GOVERNMENTS IN INDOCHINA AND DEFINE THE FUTURE PATTERN OF RELATIONS. IN THE MEANTIME, WE WOULD NOT LIKE TO MAKE ANY CHANGES IN THE PRESENT RELATIONSHIP WITH ANY OF THE PARTIES. THAT IS THE REASON WHY WE HAVE BEEN ABSTAINING ON ALL VOTES IN THE UN ON RESOLUTIONS THAT CAN BE INTERPRETED AS A SUPPORT FOR ONE OR THE OTHER OF THE PARTIES IN THE CONFLICT IN CAMBODIA.

THIS GENERAL POSITION OF THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT AS REGARDS INDOCHINA HAS BEEN MADE CLEAR ON MANY OCCASIONS WHEN REQUESTS HAVE BEEN MADE IN OUR PARLIAMENT FOR THE NORMALIZATION OR UP-GRADING OF OUR RELATIONS WITH THE VARIOUS GOVERNMENTS AND PARTIES IN THE AREA.

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FOR SOME TIME NOW, MY GOVERNMENT HAS INTER ALIA BEEN UNDER PRESSURE FROM SEGMENTS OF PUBLIC OPINION INSIDE AND OUTSIDE OUR PARLIAMENT TO RECOGNIZE THE ROYAL GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNION OF CAMBODIA (GRUNK) AND THE PROVISIONAL REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM (PRG) OR ALTERNATIVELY, IN THE LATTER CASE, TO ELEVATE THE STATUS OF THE PRG'S INFORMATION OFFICE IN OSLO TO A "DELEGATION GENERALE". REQUESTS TO THIS EFFECT WERE AGAIN MADE

DURING THE RECENT DEBATE ON FOREIGN POLICY IN OUR PARLIAMENT.

MY GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THAT A POSITIVE
VOTE FOR ANY OF THE RESOLUTIONS TABLED IN THE UNITED NATIONS
IN CONNECTION WITH THE DEBATE ON THE PROBLEM OF CAMBODIA WILL
REPRESENT A MARKED DIVIATION FROM THE POLICY WHICH THE NORWEGIAN
GOVERNMENT HAS BEEN PURSUING IN ITS RELATIONS.

SUCH A DEVIATION FROM OUR PRESENT POLICY WOULD, I AM AFRAID,
ALSO TEND TO UNDERMINE A POLITICAL PLATFORM WHICH HAS PROVED MOST
USEFUL IN RESISTING PRESSURE FOR A RECOGNITION OF REGIMES IN THE
AREA WHICH NORWAY DOES NOT TODAY RECOGNIZE.

I AGREE THAT A PEACEFUL SOLUTION TO THE CONFLICT IN CAMBODIA
IS AN URGENT NECESSITY. I AM ALSO SHARING YOUR VIEW ON THE
NECESSITY OF NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES CON-
CERNED. IT IS THE HOPE OF THE NORWEGIAN GOVERNMENT THAT A
PEACEFUL SOLUTION CAN BE REACHED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE,
ENABLING THE CAMBODIAN PEOPLE THEMSELVES TO DECIDE THEIR OWN
FUTURE.

BEST REGARDS,
KNUT FRYDENLUND

END TEXT
BYRNE

NOTE BY OC/T: EXDIS CAPTION ADDED PER INSTRUCTIONS SS-O. MISS ELTZ.

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NNN

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